CONFERENCE OF THE EIGHTEEN-NATION COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

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Statement made by the British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, The Right Honourable F. Mulley in the House of Commons on 4 December, 1967

As the House will know, a key issue in the negotiations at present taking place in Geneva to secure a Non-proliferation Treaty has been the safeguards to be applied in order to ensure that there is no diversion by the non-nuclear weapon signatories of the Treaty of materials from their civil nuclear programmes to nuclear weapon purposes.

In order to assist these negotiations Her Majesty's Government have decided that, at such time as international safeguards are put into effect in the non-nuclear weapon states in implementation of the provisions of a Treaty, they will be prepared to offer an opportunity for the application of similar safeguards in the United Kingdom subject to exclusions for national security reasons only. Her Majesty's Government welcome the similar decision announced by President Johnson on behalf of the United States.

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